Gene from Amaranthus plant

1566. SHRI G. G. SWELL
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gene isolated from Amaranthus plant, as claimed by Ashis Dutt of JNU is capable of insertion in rice plant and other crops;

(b) whether the above process would produce best protein for human consumption as claimed by Shri Dutt;

(c) whether it is a fact that Shri Dutt is trying to get his invention patented at International Level;

(d) what is the procedure for patenting invention or research and what is the cost for the same, and

(e) whether this invention would be patented by Indian Authorities if applied for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The gene isolated from Amaranthus Plant by Ashis Dutt of JNU is reportedly capable of insertion in rice plant and other crop plants. The aminoacid composition of Amaranthus protein corresponds closely to the standards of protein for optimum human nutrition as recommended by World Health Organisation.

(c) Shri Ashis Dutt has filed an application for grant of patent on his invention with the concerned authorities at international level.

(d) and (e). The Patents Act, 1970 and The Patents Rules, 1972 contain the procedure and the rate of payable fee for grant of patent. The patentability of an invention is decided as per the provisions of the above said Act and Rules.

Crop Insurance by GIC

1567. DR. RANBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that presently the General Insurance Corporation is doing crop insurance in selected states and for selected crops only;

(b) whether there is any proposal to expend the scheme in the entire country;

(c) whether it is a fact that presently only the bank loanees are covered under crop insurance;

(d) whether there is any proposal to expand the scheme to all farmers irrespective of the fact whether they are loanees or not;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the present crop insurance scheme is covering only selected crops and limited perils; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to expand the scheme to cover all crops on all risk basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). At present Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is implemented by General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) on behalf of Government of India and State Governments. The scheme is voluntary for states and covers wheat, paddy millets oilseeds and pulses.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. At present there is no proposal to expand the existing CCIS to cover all farmers.

(e) and (f). The present CCIS covers all risks (except war and nuclear risk) on area approach basis. It covers wheat, paddy, millets; oilseeds and pulses crops. At present there is no proposal to extend coverage of existing scheme to all crops.

Drought relief Programmes

1568. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated under Drought Prone Areas Programmes (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) in Kuchh region of the Gujarat State during the last three years, year-wise particularly in Mandvi and Mundra Talukas;

(b) whether the Mandvi and Mundra

Talukas have so far been covered under DPAP Scheme, and the specific development programmes undertaken in the drought prone and desert areas of the Kuchh region in these years.

(c) the programme drawn up by Government for the development of such areas during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) whether Government have reviewed the earlier schemes sponsored for the desert and drought prone areas; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The Kuchh District of Gujarat is covered under Drought Prone Areas Programmes (DPAP) only. An amount of Rs. 129.50 lakhs each was allocaetd to the district under DPAP during 1991-92 and 1992-93. In 1993-94 the allocation was Rs. 194.25 lakhs. Mandvi and Mundra talukas are not covered under the Programme.

(c) to (e). The Drought Prone Areas Programme and Desert Development Programme were recently reviewed by Technical Committee. The Committee is of the view that the Programmes have not been able to make the desired impact because of various reasons. The Committee has recommended implementation of these programmes on watershed basis and through effective participation of people and wherever possible with the involvement of voluntary organisations.

गुजरात में फसल बीमा योजना के अन्तर्गत दी गई सहायता

1569. श्री राजू भाई ए० परमार : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :–

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा गुजरात सरकार को 1991–92, 1992–93 और 1993–94 के वर्षों के दौरान फसल बीमा योजना के अतर्गत दी गई सहायता का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) इस संबंध में अगले वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए क्या-क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए हैं ;

(ग) उक्त अवधि के दौरान सौराष्ट्र क्षेत्र के किसानों ने कितनी राशि का फसल बीमा कराया था; कितनी राशि प्राप्त करने के वे हकदार हैं; इसमें से उन्हें कितनी राशि का भुगतान हो चुका है और कितनी राशि बकाया है; और

(घ) सरकार बकाया राशि का भुगतान कब तक कर देने का विचार रखती है और बकाया राशि रहने के क्या कारण हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविन्द नेताम) : (क) भारत सरकार राज्य सरकारों को व्यापक फसल बीमा योजना के अन्तर्गत सहायता नहीं देती है। तथापि, केन्द्र सरकार तथा राज्य सरकार द्वारा क्षतिपूर्ति के दाव 2:1 के अनुपात में वहन किए जाते हैं। पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान भारत सरकार द्वारा गुजरात राज्य को अदा किए गए क्षतिपूर्ति के दावे निम्नवत हैं:–

(करोड़ रुपए में)

वर्ष	प्रदत्त दावे
1991–92	शून्य
1992–93	53.91
1993–94	83.05

(ख) इस योजना के अन्तर्गत लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किए जाते हैं क्योंकि क्षतिपूर्ति के दावों की देयता संबंधी जानकारी फसल मौसम के समाप्त होने पर ही होती है।

(ग) सभा पटल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है (**नीचे देखिए**)।

(घ) वर्ष 1992–93 तक कोई राशि बकाया नहीं है। खरीफ 1993 के लिए प्राप्त दावों की भारत सरकार छानबीन कर रही है तथा रबी 1993–94 के दावे प्राप्त नहीं हुए हैं।